(b) to (e) At present, there are 96 officers posted at the Airport Office/ depots of the IOC in Delhi, of which only three officers have been working at the same location for more than 8 years. Out of these three, two are widows of which one has sought voluntary retirement. The third officer is due to retire by 2001.

Extensions to CEOs of public sector oil companies

106. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been very liberal in granting two years' extension to Chief Executives of public sector oil companies;

(b) the criteria adopted for granting such extensions;

(c) whether Government have the power to revoke such extensions;

(d) if so, when such a power has to be exercised;

(e) whether it is a fact that performance of oil PSUs is not up to the mark; and

(f) the steps proposed to review such extension and find new talent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) With effect from May 30, 1998, the age of retirement of board level appointees was raised from 58 years to 60 years by the Government. Accordingly, those board level incumbents including the Chief Executives in the Oil Sector PSUs, who had not completed 58 years or 5 years tenure have been allowed to continue upto 60 years or completion of 5 years tenure, whichever is earlier. Extension beyond the normal tenure of 5 year is, however, given as per the laid down procedure i.e. on the recommendation of the Public enterprises Selection Board and with the approval of the Appointments Commettee of the Cabinet.

(c), (d) and (f) Extension is granted to an incumbent having due regard to his performance. Such appointment can be terminated by Government for non-performance or proven irregularity, after following due procedure.

(e) No, Sir.